

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (withdrawn) A granulated composition comprising calcium carbonate, said granulated composition having an average density between about 0.9 and about 2.0 g/cm³.
2. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 1 wherein the average density of said composition is between about 1.1 and about 2.0 g/cm³.
3. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 1 wherein the average density of said composition is between about 1.3 and about 2.0 g/cm³.
4. (withdrawn) A granulated composition comprising:
 - i. a first powdered composition comprising a median particle diameter from about 10 to about 25 μm ; and
 - ii. a second powdered composition comprising a median particle diameter from about 0.1 to about 10 μm .
5. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 4 wherein at least one of said first and second powdered compositions comprise calcium carbonate.
6. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 4 wherein said first and second powdered compositions each comprise calcium carbonate.
7. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of any of claims 4-6 wherein said first powdered composition comprises from about 50 to about 100 weight % of the granulated composition and said second powdered composition comprises from about 0 to about 50 weight % of the granulated composition.

8. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of any of claims 4-6 wherein said first powdered composition has a median particle diameter from about 12 to about 17 μm and said second powdered composition has a median particle diameter from about 1 to about 5 μm .
9. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of any of claims 4-6 wherein said first powdered composition has a median particle diameter of about 15 μm and said second powdered composition has a median particle diameter of about 4 μm .
10. (withdrawn) A granulated composition comprising:
- i. a first powdered composition having a median particle diameter from about 10 to about 25 μm ;
 - ii. a second powdered composition having a median particle diameter from about 1 to about 10 μm ; and
 - iii. a third powdered composition having a median particle diameter from about 0.1 to about 1 μm .
11. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 10 wherein at least one of said first, second, and third powdered compositions comprises calcium carbonate.
12. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 10 wherein each of said first, second, and third powdered compositions comprises calcium carbonate.
13. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of any of claims 10-12 wherein said first powdered composition comprises from about 50 to about 100 weight % of the granulated composition, said second powdered composition comprises from about 10 to about 50 weight % of the granulated composition, and said third powdered composition comprises from about 0 to about 20 weight % of the granulated composition.

14. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of any of claims 10-12 wherein said first powdered composition has a median particle diameter from about 12 to about 17 μm ; said second powdered composition has a median particle diameter from about 1 to about 5 μm ; and said third powdered composition has a median particle diameter from about 0.5 to about 1 μm .

15. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of any of claims 10-12 wherein said first powdered composition has a median particle diameter of about 15 μm ; said second powdered composition has a median particle diameter of about 10 μm ; and said third powdered composition has a median particle diameter of about 0.7 μm .

16. (withdrawn) A granulated composition comprising calcium carbonate, said calcium carbonate having a median particle diameter between about 0.1 and about 20 μm .

17. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 16 wherein said calcium carbonate has a median particle diameter of about 1 μm or smaller.

18. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 16 wherein said calcium carbonate has a median particle diameter of about 3 to about 4 μm .

19. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 16 wherein said calcium carbonate has a median particle diameter of about 6 μm .

20. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 16 wherein said calcium carbonate has a median particle diameter of about 10 to about 12 μm .

21. (withdrawn) The granulated composition of claim 16 wherein said calcium carbonate has a median particle diameter of about 15 μm .

22. (withdrawn) A tablet comprising the granulated composition of any of claims 1, 4, 10 and 16.

23. (currently amended) A process for preparing a high density calcium carbonate granulation comprising the steps of: (1) mixing a composition comprising calcium carbonate powder having a median particle diameter between about 0.1 and about 20 μm in a high shear mixer; and (2) drying the composition in a horizontal fluidized bed oven, thereby resulting in a calcium carbonate granulation having a tap density between about 0.9 g/cm³ and about 2.0 g/cm³.

24. (currently amended) The process according to claim 23 wherein said composition comprises calcium carbonate powder has a median particle diameter between about 1 and about 15 μm .

25. (currently amended) ~~A granulated product prepared according to claims 23 or 24~~ The process according to claim 24 wherein said calcium carbonate powder has a median particle diameter between about 10 and about 12 μm .

26. (withdrawn) A granulation process comprising the steps of: (1) mixing powdered calcium carbonate, maltodextrin and optionally additional excipients in a mixer capable of creating high shear; (2) adding water to the composition and mixing therewith; (3) adding oil to the composition and mixing therewith; and (4) drying the resulting composition in a convection drying oven.

27. (new) The process of claim 23 wherein said fluidized bed oven is a horizontal fluidized bed oven.

28. (new) A granulated product according to any of claims 23, 24, 25 or 27.

29. (new) A tablet prepared from the granulated product of claim 28.